

I am anxious to hear what answer you will make to my last two letters, in reference to keeping house. I believe I have never described a casemate to you yet so I will make the attempt to-night. The room I am writing in is about twelve feet wide & 18 or 20 long, with an ~~arched~~ ^{arched} ceiling. I have a small bed-room, just large enough to hold a bed cleverly in the middle; and in the rear is the gun room, with an embrasure about two feet by 18 inches & two port holes for windows. The walls are very thick and over the arch overhead there is a thick layer of earth upon which the grass grows most luxuriantly. So you see that although we are alive & kicking the grass is growing over our heads, just as if we had "seeded" to Kingdom come. The earth & exposure to the weather, I suppose, cause the dampness of which all the officers

I send you a piece of the A' Pickers flag

Fort Hamilton

August 5th 1861

I confidently hoped, my dear one, that I should hear from you to-night, but the mail brought no letter. Better luck to-morrow perhaps.

You will find my receipt from the Comdg's in the lower left hand pigeon hole of my desk, or in an envelope in one of the pigeon holes in the safe, or in the top left hand pigeon hole of the same, - there may be some in each place. The last receipt is there, so that you will know how much subscription is owing.

You may as well discontinue the Gazette, if you hear of my confirmation; if you hear something else, you can wait till I return.

Tell John Howard, to take up the checks which D.H. hold against me

and surrender the collaterals, I
hold. I wish he would make
them pay over at least \$500 &
I would like to have take up the
Hydraulic Co's draft & Newt Betts
and Wickford's notes. I hope he
will urge my wishes strongly &
make him come down. I don't
think they are as safe as they
might be & I can see no let
up to these hard times. Before they
are over, I am afraid we shall
all go to pot together. I want
the money out of their hands &
if it can not all be got at
once let him take what he
can get and wait a little while
for the balance. Sam's property
a great asset for John. & if he
will only talk spirit to him
pretty strong I think he can
manage him very easily. He has
not a great deal to do now I

suppose, so he may as well do that
or anything else, or nothing.

Your announcement of Jerry's
departure for the Prairie Chickens war
moved me to visit the City to-day &
buy the powder he sent for by
me & going off in a desperate
hurry I did not take any mo-
ney with me & so was unable to
pay for it. The agent promised to
send it to-morrow. If he does
I will reach Dayton in about 3
days and if Jerry's supply is
short you can send him some.

The shooting season came on me
unawares, or I should have at-
tended to the business sooner,
tho the weather has been so warm
that I have never worn the coat
to the City in which were Jerry's
memoranda. There is no use in ap-
ologizing, however, for the truth is I
was not as clever as I might have
been.

Except myself, complain so loudly.
 It is not nearly as bad here as it is
 at Fort Pickens, for there Major Elzy tells
 me, the green mould will grow up
 on your shoes in two days. Our
 case-mats have no back-boards to them,
 & there is no way of getting out of
 them into the ditch save thro' the um-
 brasine & that soules up ^{my} ~~my~~ back
 most confoundedly. I don't think the serv-
 ices of crinoline could get thro' at
 all without a great deal of
 trouble. — I neglected to tell you,
 I believe, that I have had a visit
 from Mr Burroughs & some Dr of
 Brooklyn. We had a very pleasant
 chat and I received theirs with as
 much cordiality as if I had that there
 was nobody like him? — all on Belle's
 account you know, of course!

How are the sisters? Don't forget

to keep me posted about them.
What has become of Robert? Could
not the venerable Micawber write to
me occasionally? Has Quince
come home? Tell R he had better
get him a place in the grand army.
Has anything been heard of Sam?
How do he and the Indians get along?
I hope they will be civil to each
other & have a good time generally.
August 6th.

No letter to-day - what is the matter? - My
next please send my Life Insurance Policy.
I shall probably know to-morrow whether I
am a Mayor or not. If I am rejected you
may count upon seeing me very soon; if I am
not, I shall expect to have you here very soon
- so that we shall meet soon any way, but
if I go to D. I doubt whether you will care
much to see me, for I shall be crossed than
a bear with a sore head. I hope I may
hear from you to-morrow, particularly if the news
from Washington should prove bad. Good bye, dear
Your old lover Luthers

Aug. 7, 1867



Mrs. Luther B. Bruen

Dayton

Ohio



H. Pickens flag
sent Aug 5th
1861